

Greater Worcester Community Health Improvement Plan



Public Health
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Common Pathways
working together toward a healthier community

In a firm commitment to the long-term health and well-being of the vibrant and diverse community members of our region, The City of Worcester Division of Public Health in partnership with UMass Memorial, Common Pathways, and over 90 other community partners, drafted the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP utilizes the knowledge and expertise of individuals and organizations from all spheres of our community and aims to improve the quality of life and prosperity of residents of greater Worcester including the communities of Holden, Leicester, Millbury, Shrewsbury, West Boylston, and Worcester. In recognition of the many intricacies of health, The City and its partners performed a comprehensive Community Health Assessment to identify the health-related needs and strengths of the Worcester area, and model the CHIP grounded in those findings.

As such, The City and its partners decided to structure the CHIP around five principal domains with specific, measurable objectives to advance Worcester to the healthiest city in New England by the year 2020.

Domain 1: Healthy Eating, Active Living	Domain 2: Behavioral Health	Domain 3: Primary Care and Wellness	Domain 4: Violence and Injury Prevention	Domain 5: Health Disparities
Create an environment and community that support people’s ability to make healthy eating and active living choices that promote health and well-being.	Foster an accepting community that supports positive mental health; and reduce substance abuse in a comprehensive and holistic way for all who live, learn, work, and play in greater Worcester region. <i>Substance Abuse</i> Karyn Johnson JohnsonKE@Worcesterma.gov	Create a respectful and culturally responsive environment which fosters prevention, wellness, and access to quality comprehensive care for all.	Improve safety, reduce violence and injury, and inform public perceptions by educating and mobilizing the community around effective, targeted prevention, and intervention strategies.	Improve population health by systematically eliminating institutional racism and the pathology of oppression/ discrimination by promoting equitable access to, and use of, health promoting resources in the community, and significantly reducing the structural and environmental factors that contribute to health disparities.

To get involved, contact:

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